

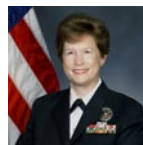


GIG-BE Implementation Involves DOD-Wide Coordination

Vol. 4 No. 4 November 2005



The Magnitude
of Implementing
Bandwidth **p3**



Hight Provides
Overview of OPS and
JTF-GNO **p6**



DISA Helps in
Hurricane Katrina
Relief **p7**



Helping Economically
Disadvantaged Areas
p12



ACTD Transition
Managers Recognized
p14

DISA CONUS Hosts 2005 **Node Site Coordinators' Conference**

By Rod Santoyo, DISA CONUS

DISA's continental U.S. field office, DISA CONUS, located at Scott Air Force Base, Ill., hosted the annual Node Site Coordinators' Conference in August. Nearly 200 attendees registered to participate in the three-day conference, which addressed the needs and interests of the node site coordinator when dealing with DISA's dramatically changing policies, mission, technologies, and scope.

Node site coordinators play an important role in DISA's continuing efforts to keep the Defense Information System Network (DISN) robust, interoperable, secure, cost-effective, and ready to meet the warfighter, 24x7 worldwide. The conference provided an unique opportunity for node site coordinators and DISA to discuss topics such as the authorized service interruption process, the DISN CONUS Call Center, Global Information Grid-Bandwidth Expansion (GIG-BE) updates, circuit implementations, and current/emerging technologies.

Army COL Kenneth R. Harrison, DISA CONUS commander, began the conference by introducing the keynote speaker, Rickie Fleming, chief of DISA's Center for Network Services, Global Information Grid-

Combat Support Directorate. Fleming set the tone for the conference by addressing the changing DISN, where capabilities stand today, and the drives for future change. Topics regarding DISN networks, services, processes, and teams were briefed during the conference.

Harrison presented Node Site Coordinator of the Year plaques to three node site coordinators — Air Force SrA Melanie Cole, Dan Brambley, and David Koontz — for their outstanding performance in node site assistance. Harrison also presented Facility of the Year plaques and runner-up certificates to facilities for their outstanding performance.

A technology workshop featuring demonstrations of Synchronous Optical Network (SONET), DISN Asynchronous Transfer Mode Services (DATMS), Promina, Virtual Presence Video Suite, and associated diagnostic equipment gave attendees the opportunity to view live network scenarios depicting equipment alarms, catastrophic network failures, and fault recovery. Attendees were also given the opportunity to participate in technical discussions with a panel consisting of DISA CONUS Network Operations Center representatives.

The conference also featured SONET and DATMS briefings, heightening conference participants' awareness of the training availabilities on those systems that DISA CONUS offers. Approximately 40 conference attendees participated in a tour of the DISA CONUS Global NetOps Support Center. ▶



Defense Information Systems Agency
Department of Defense



The Grid is produced by the Corporate Communications Division of the Strategic Planning and Information Directorate (SPI), Defense Information Systems Agency (DISA), to provide information about agency programs, initiatives, activities, issues, and developments to customers, partners, and employees. The views and opinions expressed are not necessarily those of the Department of Defense or DISA. Send correspondence to Editor, *The Grid*, ATTN: SPI4, P.O. Box 4502, Arlington, VA 22204-4502. Phone DSN 327-6900 or commercial 703-607-6900. Send e-mail to **CorporateCommunications@disa.mil**.

Director, DISA; Commander, JTF-GNO	Lt Gen Charles E. Croom Jr., USAF
Director, SPI	John J. Garing
Chief, Corporate Communications	Irene Ivone
Production Team	DISA Publications and Visual Info. Staffs

The Magnitude of Implementing Bandwidth

By Carol Horen, DISA Corporate Communications

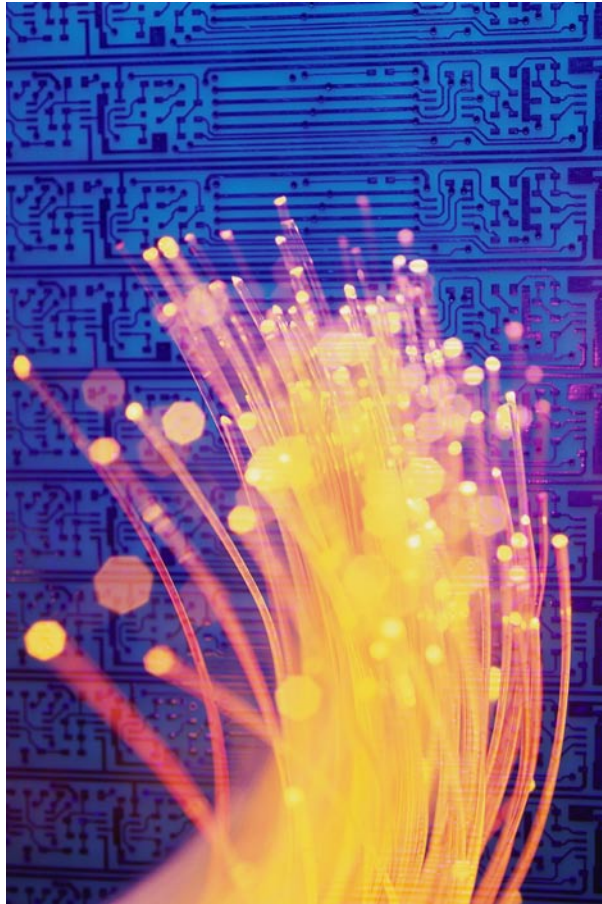
Just how big is the Global Information Grid-Bandwidth Expansion (GIG-BE) program? The project, which reached initial operational capability (IOC) in just one year and will reach full operational capability (FOC) a little more than one year after IOC, has involved immense coordination between DISA employees and customers, contractors, engineers, plumbers, electricians, and even an entire military detachment — commanded by an Air Force major from the 218th Electronics Installation Squadron — that is devoted to the implementation of GIG-BE. GIG-BE team members have been deployed to Japan, Europe, Southwest Asia, Southeast Asia, and throughout the continental United States and Alaska.

GIG-BE is a major initiative of the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Networks and Information Integration (ASD/NII). ASD/NII wants to ensure that the warfighter has the terrestrial communications, transformation communications (satellites), and the joint tactical radio system necessary to complete a mission. The GIG-BE creates a ubiquitous, robust, trusted, terrestrial-based predominantly Internet Protocol (IP) network where bandwidth is no longer a constraint and vast quantities of information can be distributed, analyzed and shared in a more effective manner.

The ultimate goal of GIG-BE is to bring the efforts of the military, the intelligence community, and other coalition forces together to get information to U.S. forces in as near real-time as possible.

GIG-BE is a Defense Acquisition 1A Program, which is the largest acquisition category in the Department of Defense. In fiscal year 2002, DISA completed the required report to the Deputy Secretary of Defense and was given the okay to begin working on the project. The goal was to complete it in the unheard-of timeframe of less than three years.

"GIG-BE came down so fast that no one had the time to put the budget in for the building upgrades,



the space, even the A/C units and power upgrades," said Linda Safford, the GIG-BE program manager, who has been with the program from the start. "We had to wonder, how do we do such a large project in such a short time? It has to do with teamwork — teamwork within the agency, with key players in DOD, even at the sites themselves. Everyone took responsibility and worked hard to make this happen, right up until the end," she added.

Taking this \$877-million program from a concept to its final operational test and evaluation in less than three years is amazing, according to Timothy Phillips, chief of the GIG-BE Implementation Division. "The synergism developed by collocating a superb team of engineers, acquisition professionals, information security experts, and implementers into one cohesive program management team was a major factor in our success," he said.

"Many people don't understand the magnitude of this program," said Phillips. For example: the optical layer of the GIG-BE network contains 22,000 miles of fiber-optic cable that was installed, or the



► **Implementation cont.**

right of use was contracted for, throughout the continental United States and Europe. That's a lot of fiber!

The GIG-BE team had a careful process of selecting the commercial- and government-furnished fiber used for this program. The fiber selected was high-quality, industry-grade fiber that was being built to commercial standards.

It is designed to carry high levels of information, and its capabilities are measured in the number of bits per second that it can support. The Cenia Cold Stream Optical Transmission Systems equipment [a part of GIG-BE] can support 80 different frequencies of light, or lambdas. A single wavelength can transmit information at speeds up to 10 gigabits per second.

The network built by the GIG-BE team was designed to both last a long time as well as handle the warfighter's increased demand for bandwidth.

To better explain the capabilities of the network, Phillips put the measurements into physical lengths. "A width of single T1 circuit is no more than a pinprick compared to a GIG-BE lambda, which would equate to the size of a pipe 35 yards in diameter," he said. "GIG-BE, at the optical level, can support up to 80 lambdas."

With each lambda capable of 10 gigabits per second, that's 800 gigabits of potential bandwidth that the warfighter can use to transmit information.

At most sites, two diverse fiber paths are used to establish connectivity. The paths are set between 25 and 50 meters apart and come in from different directions. This lessens the possibility of disruption of service caused by a single failure.

The fiber is a major part of GIG-BE, but what about implementing the equipment necessary to ensure GIG-BE provides a stable and efficient

network for the warfighter to use?

The logistics of the GIG-BE program were tremendous. Since the majority of military technical control sites were not designed to support commercial telecommunications equipment, GIG-BE team members installed a number of large generators and huge, submarine-sized DC battery plants to keep the equipment running. The GIG-BE team reinforced floors to meet earthquake building-code standards and, in a few locations, contracted for the construction of new building-to-house GIG-BE equipment. They worked on plumbing construction as well as major heating and cooling systems upgrades.

The GIG-BE program installed more than 500,000 tons of air conditioning to keep the equipment cool. The typical GIG-BE service delivery node consumes more than 1,000 amps of DC power an hour.

Not only did all the equipment have to be purchased, received, and kitted, it also had to be shipped to various locations worldwide. There needed to be people to receive the equipment at Customs and deliver it to worldwide locations. Additionally, much of the GIG-BE equipment was installed in special classified facilities.

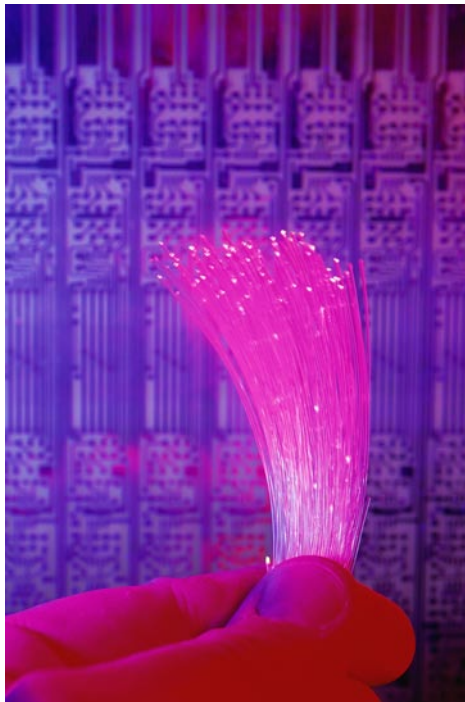
"There was a lot of synergy required to keep track of everything. We needed to make sure it got to the warehouse and that it got to the site. We were dealing with three layers of security: unclassified, classified, and top secret.

We needed to coordinate the equipment through various levels of security. A major challenge for the GIG-BE team was coordination," said Safford.

Phillips stated, "It's really getting the right piece of equipment at the proper location at the right time with a trained technician with the proper clearance and access."

After the equipment was in the right place, GIG-BE team members began the installation process. The implementation involved a lot of coordination with the various people.

"If we're working in the NORTHCOM area of responsibility, then we work with the NORTHCOM





DISA Field Office to coordinate the implementation of the GIG-BE program in that area,” Phillips said. “They know their [area of responsibility] better than we do. It’s a strategic partnership.”

The GIG-BE Implementation Operations Center is manned 18 to 20 hours a day. There is a representative on hand during those long hours to monitor, coordinate, and assist the deployed site installation teams. Secure telephone calls and video teleconferencing are ways the GIG-BE team coordinates this complex, worldwide installation.

Briefings with GIG-BE team members located across the world begin at 6:30 a.m., in which there is a briefing with the Europe representatives. Briefings continue throughout the day with continental U.S. team members. The last teleconference, held with the Asia team members, begins at 10 p.m.

“Each site is unique. As a result, we complete multiple site surveys. We award a fixed price contract to do the site prep work. After that work is inspected and accepted by the government, we schedule a site installation team to visit the site, ship the service delivery node equipment, inventory it to ensure it’s complete, install it, test the node, and provision the backbone circuits to activate the site,” said Phillips.

Safford described numerous challenges the GIG-BE team faced when actually putting the fiber in the ground. At times, the planned path needed to be changed due to the base’s requirements. The GIG-BE team would negotiate with the base to determine the

best path to lay the fiber down. The team faced ill weather, train crashes right on the proposed digging sites, and even had to resort to “hand-digging,” according to Safford.

“The team was sometimes told, ‘No, you can’t do that.’ They never took it as a no. They would think, ‘If I can’t do it that way, how can I do it?’ I think that’s what kept this program running,” said Safford.

Now that the infrastructure has been put into the ground, the GIG-BE team is looking into the next step of the program, which is transitioning the legacy Defense Information System Network (DISN) into GIG-BE.

“We’re doing some unique things here,” Phillips continued. “DISA is now the bandwidth manager. In the past, we used a commercial carrier to provide a path. Now we operate and manage the network. We are the carrier.”

Customers absolutely love it, according to Phillips, but they also have a lot of questions about how the GIG-BE fits in with current communications technology. “We’ve built this infrastructure; now how can we leverage this network? There are many questions because there are so many possibilities,” said Phillips. “I like to say, ‘If we build it, they will come.’ Well, they’re coming.”

Now that the infrastructure has been put into the ground, the GIG-BE team is looking into the next step of the program in planning for the transformation and optimization of DISN subsystems (voice, data, and video) via the GIG-BE, both in terms of physical topology and technology evolution, with the goal of providing converged services by the end of the decade.

Looking back at the process of implementation, Safford said, “The dedication never stopped. I’ve never seen a team, both internal and external to the agency, come together like this.”

Hight Provides Overview of **GIG Operations** and **JTF-GNO**

By Carol Horen, DISA Corporate Communications

According to RDML Elizabeth A. Hight, principal director of DISA's Global Information Grid Operations (GO) Directorate and deputy commander of the JTF-GNO, a primary challenge facing both GO and the JTF-GNO is changing the way we think about operations in net-centric warfare.

"We are transitioning from a circuit-based environment to a network-based environment. A circuit-based environment is not nearly as complex as a network-based environment. We are facing technical challenges of implementing the network, as well as policy and procedure challenges, and command and control challenges," said Hight.

Hight, who came onboard in September, has dual responsibilities in overseeing DISA's global net-centric capabilities as well as providing day-to-day management of the JTF-GNO and its worldwide NetOps Centers that provide situational awareness of the Global Information Grid (GIG).

She recognizes the challenges caused by the major changes that the world of information technology and communications capabilities have created.

"The generation of warfare that we have today is unlike what we've had in the past. The requirements and acquisitions processes used in the past need to be streamlined to produce capabilities for the future," she said.

There are numerous challenges facing DISA and the JTF-GNO, but according to Hight, those challenges can be overcome by allowing smart, technically-savvy people think through different warfighting situations. Hight added, "We need open-minded people willing to cooperate and think outside the box. We need to help people understand what it means to transition away from a circuit-based environment."

Hight cited wartime scenarios and exercises as

good opportunities for DISA and JTF-GNO employees. "[We need to] educate ourselves on network-centric operations, and what that means to the soldiers, sailors, airmen, and Marines who are on the frontline of the battlefield, because net-centric operations are so fundamentally different from the way we've approached anything in the past," she said. "If we're not well-educated in network-centric operations, we'll have left these people vulnerable."

"We need to have adaptability and flexibility. We need to be standardized in both the development and operation of our systems. We need the ability to reach out and work with our mission partners," said Hight, citing organizations both within and external to the Department of Defense. "The threats to the Global Information Grid are ubiquitous. We need to have a

sense of our environment. We need to think beyond a small focus area and expand our attention to all of the Global Information Grid. The GIG is impacted in many different ways by system development, implementation and operations. We need to look at it from an end-to-end perspective and manage the risks that we face in operating it."

It's not just the capability to work with the new technology that Hight emphasizes; it's also the ability to work in a joint environment.

"I have been involved in looking at new ways to use technology. The

transition from circuit-oriented to network-oriented systems parallels the way we're moving from Service-based operations to joint operations," she said.

A third of her career has been spent in joint duty assignments. She previously served as the U.S. Space Command liaison officer to the U.S. European Command in Stuttgart, Germany; commanding officer for the Naval Computer and Telecommunications Area Master Station Atlantic; and Executive Assistant and Current Operations on the Joint Staff J6.

"I have had such good teachers so I feel I'm ready to take on the complexities of my current role," Hight said. "My experience from operations and requirements to policy and acquisition have given me a firm foundation. ... But we'll be successful because we have a lot of talent here at DISA and the JTF-GNO." ■



DISA Helps in Hurricane Katrina Relief

Hurricane Katrina's destruction was not targeted to a specific building, city, county, or even a single state; it was an in-depth destruction of the supporting infrastructure over the entire region. It also affected the area around the DISA Continuity of Operations and Test Facility (DCTF), located in Slidell, La., striking close for home to a branch of DISA's Testing Directorate (TE).

U.S. military forces were deployed to rescue those in need. In the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina's force, communications became essential for coordinating rescue efforts. Military forces sent to the Louisiana and Mississippi areas as part of Joint Task Force (JTF)-Katrina at Camp Shelby, Miss., didn't leave their information technology capabilities behind, despite the speed at which they were sent to provide assistance.

Read how DISA and the JTF-GNO responded to these disasters, both onsite at an area affected by the hurricane and via communications support from DISA/JTF-GNO locations across the United States.

Hurricane Hits Close to Home for Testing Directorate's Slidell Facility

The DCTF, a branch of DISA's TE, is a 14-acre complex located in Slidell, La. More than 150 government and contractor personnel support and perform developmental testing and evaluation of Department of Defense (DOD) systems providing command, control, and combat support functions.

The DCTF's severe weather plan had been around for almost 10 years. It provided instructions for securing the facility and site and for sheltering emergency-essential personnel, but it did not prepare the DCTF personnel for supporting an immense number of first responders 24x7, with minimal manning, for four weeks.

DCTF onsite personnel and families made tremendous effort to support the first responders, while concurrently grappling with the initial shock of the magnitude of the disaster, ensuring their own and their family's well-being, coping with the lack of information, and assisting as much as possible with

the search and rescue efforts. The unknown status of family, friends, and co-workers weighed heavily on the minds of DCTF personnel.

The night before the hurricane struck, DCTF supported 89 first responders and their equipment. The day after the hurricane, approximately 280 people from the mayor of Slidell to police, public workers, and others, moved their operations into the DCTF building. The DISA facility became the point of operations for the city of Slidell for several days after the hurricane, and the community gained confidence that their local government was still functioning and visible.

DCTF was the only government facility in the area with electricity, obtained from its power generator. There were no telephones, no working cell phones, no network, no water pressure, and no commercial electricity.

Following Hurricane Katrina, the DCTF was up and operating "Club Fed: Bed & Breakfast" 24x7 to support of the search and rescue and recovery missions of the first responders. During the first three weeks after the hurricane, the facility provided shelter and security for about 200 to 350 first responders per night.

The DCTF kitchen facility contains a walk-in refrigerator and freezer, several large grills, a convection oven, and three large cookers that were used to serve more than 18,500 meals. Additionally, the facility hosted a Red Cross financial distribution point that processed approximately 3,000 applications, raising \$3 million for families affected by the hurricane.

Of more than 150 government, contractor, and student personnel at the DCTF, there was no loss of life or serious injury during the catastrophe. However, more than 70 DISA employees with 180 family members evacuated the area as a result of the hurricane. One month later, about 37 members and 64 family members were still waiting for housing in the local area. The DISA Manpower, Personnel, and Security Directorate implemented a DISA referral program to assist in the placement of personnel electing to relocate to other DISA locations.

"It's unfortunate that most of the human side of what our people did the first few days to keep this city functioning will not be understood



► Katrina Relief cont.

without having lived through it. The actual survival stories of some of our personnel and what they had to do to save themselves and their family's lives are truly amazing," said Lt Col Tim Breland, DCTF chief. "It was surprising the agreements and relationships that develop during a catastrophe in order to survive and maintain a sense of order amongst our selves and across the community."

Breland added, "I'm very proud of this group. They helped save lives by providing a safe haven and support to these first responders. I have to agree with the motto of the Weapons Company from the 1st Battalion of the 8th Marines: Anything is possible when people come together to do the right thing, in the right way, for the right reasons."



U.S. Navy photo by PH1(AW) Brien Aho

JITC Sends Support Team to Slidell

The day of the hurricane, the DISA DCTF lost communications with TE. TE leadership immediately tasked the Joint Interoperability Test Command (JITC) to re-establish communications. Taking quick action with her newly acquired command, Air Force Col Debra Dexter, JITC commander, created a 24-hour operations cell to handle all aspects of disaster coordination and relief for the DCTF.

Dexter organized an initial JITC rapid deployment team of four personnel, and she sent them to Slidell to assess the damage and start immediate assistance. Rapidly, JITC deployed a second team with communication packages.

JITC employees actively sought donations from the local community, obtaining contributions that included food, diapers, hardhats, gloves, and monetary donations. A third JITC team was swiftly dispatched, bringing two trucks loaded with donated items and more support equipment.

On the ground in Slidell, JITC personnel set up landline phones, hand-held radios, satellite radios, secure and non-secure communication, Internet, and video teleconferencing support to be used by the DCTF. The JITC team also joined in on work to help restore the facility and city of Slidell.

Testing Directorate Creates Action Team

Immediately following the hurricane, TE leaders at DISA headquarters in Arlington, Va., established a crisis action team to provide 24-hour support to relief operations. Hotlines were established and manned by volunteers, ensuring critical communications and quality-of-life issues were addressed quickly and ensuring life-saving equipment and supplies were purchased and delivered to Slidell via every imaginable mode of transportation.

The DCTF toll-free number was moved to the TE front office and was manned for the first 72 hours by Cyndy Gardner, TE executive assistant. The number was used to account for all Slidell employees. Also, Gardner, along with DCTF employee Red Wasson



U.S. Air Force photo by Tech Sgt Mike Buytas

and others, set up an e-mail distribution list to track down the location and status of DISA Slidell employees.

DISA CONUS Provides Critical Communications

Within hours of being notified of Hurricane Katrina, the DISA CONUS Contingency and Exercise (CONEX) branch provided Standardized Tactical Entry Points (STEP) communications to deployed units in southeastern United States.

The CONUS CONEX branch supported more than 40 missions and established communications in several areas without electricity throughout Louisiana, Mississippi, Florida, and Alabama. The CONUS CONEX branch delivered the only means of communications to isolated areas devastated by Hurricane Katrina by providing full Defense Information System Network (DISN) services to JTF-Katrina, which aided in coordination of critical relief efforts.

Early on in the relief effort, JTF-Katrina used STEP services to brief the President George Bush and Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld on situational awareness and planned actions.

Immediately following Hurricane Katrina, the CONUS CONEX branch quickly mobilized again to expeditiously prepare STEP solutions for Hurricane Rita. The CONUS CONEX Branch allocated STEP assets for JTF-Rita's deployed units in Texas and

Louisiana. U.S. Northern Command (USNORTHCOM) senior leadership praised the CONUS CONEX branch for their efforts and dedication during both hurricane catastrophes.

During this period, the CONUS CONEX also maintained STEP support for global contingencies supporting the Global War on Terrorism. The CONUS CONEX branch manages nine of the 17

global STEP sites, supporting seven of the nine combatant commanders.

JTF-GNO Works Globally to Provide Local Support

The JTF-GNO provided direct support to USNORTHCOM with a well-coordinated and deliberate effort to manage and protect the Global Information Grid during the hurricane crisis. In addition to technical responses, the JTF-GNO assigned additional field grade officers and senior government employees to staff a 24x7 crisis action team for the duration of the hurricane and the response to the disaster.

The JTF-GNO worked extensively through the Theater NetOps Center located at USNORTHCOM headquarters. The Global NetOps Support Center at Scott Air Force Base, Ill., played a significant support role in developing solutions for emerging requirements and working major network alternate routing actions.

Additionally, the JTF-GNO and the Global Satellite Communications Support Center at Peterson Air Force Base, Colo., validated requirements for Iridium phones, assisted with commercial damage assessments and communication node restorals, managed satellite missions, and mitigated video teleconferencing problems in the region. ► 10

► **Katrina Relief cont.**

DISA Employees Respond to Disaster with Fund-raisers

By the second day following the disaster, Gulf Coast families were looking to buy fresh food and supplies, but no grocery store or restaurant was open. Food distribution points were set up days later, and then, the wait could be hours as hundreds of affect families sought food and relief. Gas stations were closed, making it risky to drive any distance. Homeowners with generators realized that commercial power could take weeks to be restored, and they began looking for open gas stations. There were no air conditioners in very humid, 90-plus-degree days.

DISA employees gave tremendous effort to ensure communication capabilities in the region, but they also sought to help the families whose homes and lives were devastated by the hurricane.

Numerous DISA employees from directorates across the agency participated in fund-raising. TE fund-raising events alone — pizza sales, bake sales, book sales, and an auction — raised more than \$4,800. TE employees Angela Wenzel and Ann Patton spent countless hours organizing the events and obtaining volunteers.

Every year hurricanes hit the southeastern United States. But in late August, Hurricane Katrina struck the Gulf Coast area with an unprecedented force, leaving in its wake an immense path of destruction. In response to the disaster, DISA and JTF-GNO employees sprung into action to ensure communication capabilities were maintained and restored. Additionally, the dedication of employees ensured that humanitarian efforts were supported to the greatest extent. ►

The following people contributed to this article: Maj Valerie Baker, C4ISR test officer; Capt Joseph Braxton, DISA CONUS/RN34 branch chief; Lt Col Timothy Breland, chief, DISA-Slidell; Cynthia Gardner, TE executive assistant; Tim Madden, JTF-GNO public affairs; Capt Daniel Millane, joint C4I interoperability and integration officer; Kim Watkins, chief, TE1 Net-Centric Developmental Testing Center

Comings & Goings



Navy RDML Elizabeth A. Hight has been assigned as principal director of DISA's Global Information Grid Operations (GO) directorate and deputy commander for the JTF-GNO. As principal director of GO, Hight plans, tailors, and synchronizes delivery

of DISA's global net-centric capabilities in support of the full spectrum of military operations. As deputy commander for the JTF-GNO, Hight is responsible for the day-to-day management of the JTF-GNO's tasks, including oversight of a tiered hierarchy of worldwide NetOps Centers that provide situational awareness of the Global Information Grid. Hight previously served as the assistant division director for Command, Control, Communications, and Computers, Office of the Chief of Naval Operations. Among her many communications-related assignments, she has served as the U.S. Space Command liaison officer to the U.S. European Command in Stuttgart, Germany; commanding officer for the Naval Computer and Telecommunications Area Master Station Atlantic; and program manager for Mid-Atlantic Region Information Technology. Hight has a Master of Science degree in information systems from The George Washington University, and she is a graduate of the Defense Systems Management College.

Dr. Steven Hutchison is DISA's new director of Testing. In this position, Hutchison is responsible for building an effective tool for managers to use in their testing efforts; providing the infrastructure and test environments to support DISA's engineering, combat support, and operations activities; and



Comings & Goings

executing net-centric life-cycle testing of DISA products and services. Prior to his arrival at DISA, Hutchison served in the Office of the Director, Operational Test and Evaluation (DOT&E), Office of the Secretary of Defense, as a network-centric warfare systems analyst, where he had oversight responsibilities for several of the major warfighting information systems in the Department of Defense, including the Global Command and Control System-Joint, the service variants of the Distributed Common Ground/Surface System, and the future Joint Command and Control capability. He earned a Master of Science in operations research at the U.S. Naval Postgraduate School in 1991 and a doctorate in industrial engineering at Purdue University in 1998.



Eugene J. Stefanucci has been chosen as the principal director of the Global Information Grid Combat Support (GS) Directorate. In this position, he is responsible for planning, resourcing, implementing, sustaining, and evolving Global Information Grid combat-support networks,

computing services, applications, and information services that provide net-centric solutions for the commander in chief, combatant commanders, senior leadership, various Department of Defense agencies, and the warfighter. Stefanucci previously served as the vice principal director of GS. In 1973, he graduated from the Rochester Institute of Technology with a Bachelor of Science degree in electrical engineering and began his career in the private sector. In his early assignments, Stefanucci held a number of key engineering and management assignments in advanced technology, supporting major contracts with NASA, the Army, the Air Force, the Navy, and others. His successful financial, personnel, and program-delivery management won him multiple IBM-division and president-level awards.



Air Force CMSgt Timothy M. Dickens is the new senior enlisted advisor to the DISA director. He serves as principal enlisted advisor to the director and staff on matters relating to the morale, welfare, quality of life, training, discipline, effective use, and force structure for all

enlisted service members assigned to DISA in locations worldwide. He enlisted in the Air Force in July 1976 and completed basic military training as an honor graduate. His background includes duties as a materiel facilities specialist, inventory management specialist, and a supply systems analyst. Dickens served two tours with the Air Force Honor Guard. He also served at the Air Force Academy as the second group sergeant major, one of only five in the Air Force, performing duties as a military training instructor.

Army CSM Calvin Jones, DISA's senior enlisted advisor (SEA), retired Sept. 13 in a ceremony held at Fort Myer, Va. Jones had served as SEA since Dec. 15, 2003. Jones spent a total of 31 years, nine months, and eight days in the Army, having



enlisted in March 1974. His numerous assignments include participation in Operation JTF-92, Operation Desert Shield/Storm, Operation Joint Guard, as well as deployments to the Honduras, Panama, Saudi Arabia, and Bosnia-Herzegovina. Prior to being assigned to DISA, he served as the command sergeant major of the Communications-Electronics Command at Fort Monmouth, N.J. During his notable service with the Army, he was awarded the Legion of Merit, the Bronze Star medal, the Meritorious Service Medal with five oak leaf clusters, and numerous other honors. ▶

HUBZone Program Helps Economically Disadvantaged Areas

By Carol Horen, DISA Corporate Communications

The Small Business Administration (SBA), in an effort to stimulate areas with slow economic development and high unemployment rates, created the Historically Underutilized Business Zones (HUBZone) Program as part of the Small Business Reauthorization Act of 1997. DISA's Office of Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization (SADBU) promotes the effective utilization of small businesses to include HUBZone firms in DISA's contracting process and the global net-centric acquisition program. The selection of a HUBZone firm for a contract has the added benefit of spurring economic development in areas that need it.

DISA's SADBU recently held an education seminar on HUBZone small business utilization in the National Capital Region, attended by contracting specialists, officers, and program managers within DISA as well as numerous small- and large-industry representatives. The theme of the event was, "Enlightened, Enriched, Empowered: Utilizing HUBZone Small Businesses ... The Way Ahead."

"When I talk about HUBZone firms everyone always asks, 'What is that? How do I locate a HUBZone?'" said Sharon Jones, director of DISA's Small Business Office.

According the Federal Acquisition Regulation, the purpose of the HUBZone program (sometimes referred to as the HUBZone Empowerment Contracting Program) is to provide federal contracting assistance for qualified small businesses located in historically underutilized business zones in an effort to increase employment opportunities, investment, and economic development in those areas. SBA will certify a qualified HUBZone and will add that qualified HUBZone to its list of qualified HUBZone Small Business Concerns on its Web site.

"The HUBZone Program helps empower communities and helps them grow," said Michael P. McHale, associate administrator of the HUBZone Program, U.S. Small Business Administration. "There's not really a community; there's not really an economy, unless there are jobs there," McHale added.

With DOD's Base Realignment and Closure expected to have a great impact on employment within communities, the use of the HUBZone Program may be

greater than ever, McHale said.

HUBZone areas proactively help in economic growth in areas that need it. According to McHale, HUBZone firms receive \$22 billion in receipts, and a HUBZone firm employs 65 percent of residents within a HUBZone area. The HUBZone Program can have a profound effect on both parties involved.

DISA's SADBU promotion of the HUBZone Program was designed to raise awareness of the value of using a HUBZone small business in DISA's contracting initiatives and of the value of helping communities in need of economic growth. Various businesses took the opportunity to talk about their HUBZone experiences during the SADBU educational seminar, including KeyLogic Systems Inc., the one small business to which DISA has awarded contracts.

KeyLogic Systems Inc. President Jon Hammock spoke about his company and how it is a "HUBZone Success Story at DISA." Keylogic, which was founded in 1999, currently has 75 employees and a primary business location in Columbia, Md., which is an area in need of more business growth.

This small business has provided support to DISA, particularly with providing plans and program control, program design and development, and a variety of other services. DISA is KeyLogic's largest customer.

Hammock provided information on how his company has used the HUBZone to build itself up. However, "being a HUBZone firm isn't the answer to all problems," said Hammock, "but it does separate you from the pack. We use the HUBZone Program, but aren't dependent on it," he added.

Robert Nabors, director of DOD and U.S. Army Programs within EDS, and the large-business representative at the DISA seminar, spoke on how small companies can assist large companies with contracting opportunities with DOD organizations such as DISA.

"When we're dealing with small companies, we're dealing with quality companies," Nabors said. "Small businesses give us agility, so we can move in ways we would not be able to do otherwise," he added.

"The government has the right to expect the best we can give them for the money that we get," Nabors said.

At the conclusion of the event, Jones encouraged attendees to use the knowledge gained to the best of their abilities. Jones also reminded attendees that,

"this is one of many small-business forums designed to educate and enlighten on small-business matters."

DISA's SADBUs office has held previous forums to educate small businesses, including one for veteran-owned businesses and one for women-owned businesses.

The office promotes the agency's use of small, disadvantaged, small women-owned, service-disabled veteran-owned small business, and historically black colleges/universities and minority institutions. It also advocates equitable treatment of small firms in support of subcontracting goals, monitors relevant legislation and information that may impact the DISA small business program in general, and provides individualized technical assistance by conducting outreach programs.

In fiscal year 2004, the Department of Defense gave DISA's SADBUs a small-business goal performance grade of "A-." The agency exceeded its target goal for small business awards of 19.2 percent to reach a record breaking 26.7 percent for fiscal year 2004, exceeding its goal by 7.5 percent. The agency awarded \$986 million in prime contract awards to small businesses in fiscal year 2004.

Additionally, the use of small disadvantaged business surpassed DISA's goal of 9 percent to reach 11.4 percent. DISA's target goal for use of women-owned small businesses doubled from 2 percent to 4.2 percent of DISA's contract awards. DISA has increased contract awards to historically black colleges and universities/minority institutions to 83.7 percent.

While DISA's use of HUBZone and service-disabled, veteran-owned small businesses have not met expectations, the agency's small business office has held educational forums for the workforce to increase the awareness of those programs.

For more information on DISA's SADBUs office, please call (703) 607-6436. For more information on the SBA HUBZone Program, please go to <http://www.sba.gov/hubzone>. ▶



Speakers at the HUBZone educational seminar, from top to bottom: Jon Hammock, president of KeyLogic Systems Inc.; Robert Nabors, director of DOD and U.S. Army Programs within EDS; and Michael P. McHale, associate administrator of the HUBZone Program, U.S. Small Business Administration. DISA photos by Carol Horen

DISA ACTD Transition Managers Recognized

By Carol Horen, DISA Corporate Communications

The Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition, Technology, and Logistics recently honored two DISA employees as the Advanced Concept Technology Demonstration (ACTD) Transition Manager of the Year.

Mark Kuzma, the ACTD Adaptive Battlespace Awareness (ABA) technical and transition manager from Oct. 1, 2000, to Jan. 31, 2004, and Patrick Corrado, ABA ACTD technical and transition manager from Feb. 1, 2004, to the present, jointly received the award.

Kuzma and his successor, Corrado, led a team of about 30 government employees and contractors in the task of enhancing the Global Command and Control System (GCCS) Common Operation Picture (COP) tool to be a more interactive and comprehensive tool for commanders and warfighters.

The ACTD ABA team was tasked with enhancing the GCCS COP by improving the completeness and relevance of the COP, providing quick access to supporting relevant information, and providing adaptable displays to support different mission areas. The end result would be an electronic map that could filter out any battle information irrelevant to the mission, so users could see what they want to see. Users could associate amplifying information such as intelligence reports, imagery, video clips, documents, URLs, and adjunct data to COP tracks that commanders and warfighters could access. Users could then click on icons on the map and quickly obtain specific amplifying information about the track. The COP is designed to track forces as they move, rather than report a stationary location.

Within the first three years of developing the ABA capabilities, Kuzma and the ACTD ABA team transitioned the tool from a concept into a capability that could be used by the warfighter on the battlefield.

In November 2004, the deputy commander for Headquarters, U.S. European Command, said, "The ABA ACTD, a true Joint/Coalition COP, is the backbone of my EUCOM Plans and Operations Center."

The ABA project oftentimes faced scarce resources, and the team sought to develop ways to support its



Mark Kuzma (left) and Patrick Corrado were jointly awarded the ACTD Transition Manager of the Year award.

original sites as well as garner funding to support additional locations. Headquarters U.S. European Command, U.S. Air Forces Europe, and Commander Task Force 67 were the first three pilot sites for the ABA-enhanced COP. As other sites were added to the program, the team faced several unfunded requests to add U.S. Army Europe, U.S. Naval Forces Europe, and the Joint Analysis Center as additional pilot sites.

In fiscal year 2005, the team also was asked to develop, assess, and transition a capability to build an interface to visualize all in-transit visibility (ITV) logistics data on the COP. Once the ITV interface and capabilities were developed, two additional assessment events were conducted at the headquarters of U.S. Europe Command, and U.S. Central Command.

"Mr. Kuzma and Mr. Corrado successfully demonstrated several ABA capabilities that were assessed and incorporated with other ACTD efforts," the award write-up states. "In order to transition the ABA ACTD capabilities successfully, the ABA transition manager had to ensure coordination of development, integration, and funding across programs."

"We had a pretty broad development team, with different contractors and different contracts crossing different functional areas of GCCS," said Corrado.

"We worked together as a team. Everyone pulled together," Kuzma added. "The objective is to transition the capabilities. We just did our job."

According to Corrado, the ABA ACTD team is wrapping up development and transition, which is expected to be completed in early 2006. ▶

DECC-Oklahoma Installs **In-Transit Visibility System**

The DISA Defense Enterprise Computing Center/Systems Management Center (DECC/SMC) in Oklahoma City, Okla., a branch of DISA's Center for Computing Services, recently implemented the Army's Radio Frequency In-Transit Visibility (RF-ITV) system.

RF-ITV is a mission-essential, Web-based solution that provides the last-known location of military shipments (cargo, supplies, and unit movement) that have active radio-frequency tags attached to the pallets, containers, or equipment. RF-ITV's primary objective is to provide in-transit visibility of shipment cargo in a database environment that is well-documented and easily accessible by Department of Defense (DOD) database users.

The RF-ITV system provides a computer and communications infrastructure serving thousands of users from four sets of servers located worldwide — a continental U.S. system and three outside-continental U.S. systems.

The servers contain two types of data — radio-frequency identification (RFID) and ITV data. RFID identifies the date, type of cargo, and the last location that the cargo was seen by elements of the infrastructure. Radio-frequency tags are read automatically when queried by fixed radio-frequency readers, or "interrogators," at air- and sea-ports of embarkation and debarkation, at other transportation nodes, and at the final receiving point.

The information read by the interrogator is transferred to a field data unit, which is a computer that forwards the collected information to the nearest RF-ITV server collection points, located in the United States, Germany, and Korea. As RFID information is updated in military and commercial transportation tracking systems, relevant data is transmitted to the ITV server, becomes available to appropriate users, and is sent to customer systems.


By using a standard Web browser with high-grade encryption, the user can locate and display specific cargo of interest, estimate the expected arrival times, observe the volume of traffic flowing the same route, and even obtain information

necessary to determine alternative transportation options. There are 12,000 tags written on a weekly basis to the continental U.S. server.

The RF-ITV system located at DECC/SMC OKC is managed in a cooperative effort with the Army Product Manager Joint-Automatic Identification Technology (PM J-AIT) Office, which provides remote application and database administration. In February, the Army PM J-AIT requested Computing Services' help to relocate the RF-ITV system and workload to a DISA facility. DISA's Computing Services moved the continental U.S. system to the DECC/SMC in Oklahoma and implemented a new and upgraded systems architecture with more powerful servers and storage area networks.

With the successful implementation in early September, the relocation was complete. The DECC/SMC provides ongoing support to the RF-ITV system with 24x7, 365-days-a-year, service desk support, including Tivoli monitoring, UNIX system administration, security administration, capacity planning, performance monitoring, system backups, and storage area network administration. Client-server access and interfaces to the systems are provided through Computing Services' Business-to-Business Gateway, and administrative access is provided through the Out-of-Band network.

There is an additional need for monitoring and management of the approximately 500 field data units that PM J-AIT currently maintains at various locations around the world. The completed relocation to the DECC/SMC and the future remote management of the field data units will enable DISA to provide essential support to the warfighter worldwide by providing the near real-time location information of critical military assets during transit.

Since the successful acceptance of RF-ITV in September 2005, the feedback from PM J-AIT has been positive. Collaboration among engineering, program implementation, central communications center, and DECC/SMC personnel working with the customer enabled Computing Services to meet the high standards of DISA and the Army and to deliver enhanced functionality for the warfighter. 



MARK YOUR CALENDAR

DISA Customer Partnership Conference 2006

May 1 - 4, 2006

**Las Vegas Hilton and
Conference Center**

Mark Your Calendar! The dates and location for the DISA Customer Partnership Conference 2006 have been set. From May 1 to May 4, 2006, DISA customers and partners will convene at the Las Vegas Hilton and Conference Center. The event will feature insightful speakers from DOD and private industry, informative breakout sessions, and exhibits by the nation's leading IT companies, showcasing their latest solutions for a net-centric world. Please come join us in Las Vegas for what promises to be the best DISA conference yet!

For the latest information regarding the conference, please visit the conference Web site at <http://www.disa.mil/conference>.



Defense Information Systems Agency
Department of Defense

Solutions at the Speed of Change

DSN 327-6900

Phone 703-607-6900

www.disa.mil